

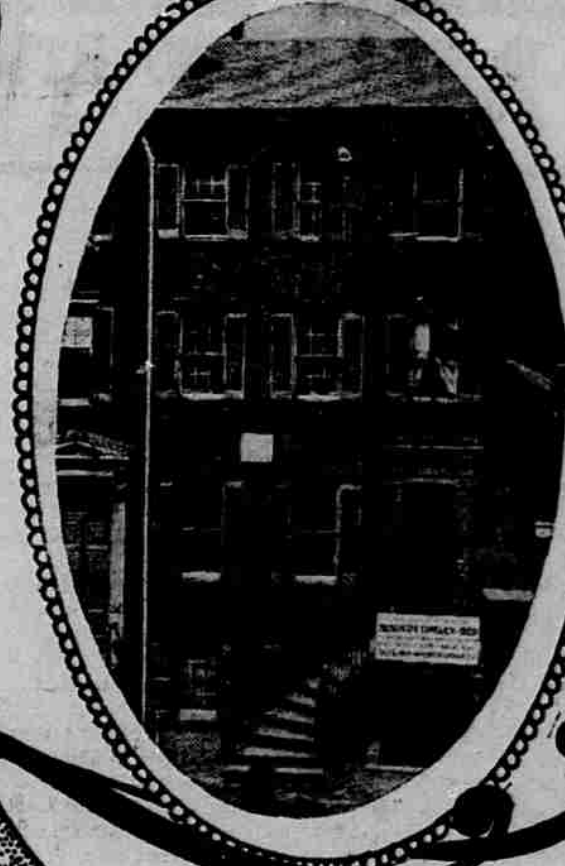
GREAT LINCOLN COLLECTION IN HOUSE WHERE MARTYR PRESIDENT DIED



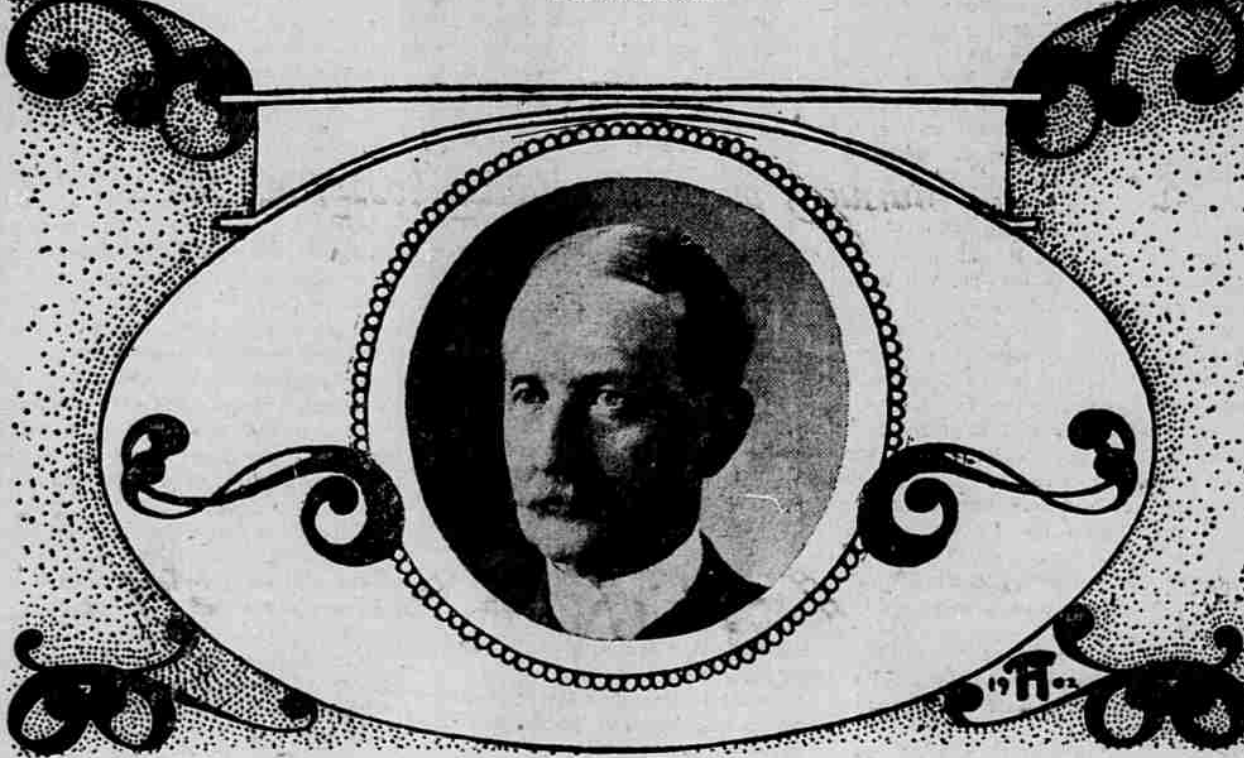
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, in 1864.



Deathbed Scene.



Exterior of House Where Lincoln Died.



MR. OSBORN H. OLDROYD.

NO monument reared of mortal hands could sufficiently do honor to the name of Abraham Lincoln. The man's own works are his best memorials. Nevertheless, it is but fitting and graceful that in the Capital of the nation which he served so conspicuously there should be found monuments and mementoes of the great "War President."

First in interest, perhaps, as bringing before the mind's eye the personality of Lincoln, is the museum on Tenth Street, located in a house opposite the old Ford's Theater building, in which he was shot. To this house he was borne on that deplorable occasion, and here he breathed his last.

The museum is a truly astonishing aggregation of all those little mementoes and reminders that were connected with his life in its various stages, and with his tragic death. That brilliant life, ending so strangely and sadly, is here brought before us as vividly as possible with the aid of inanimate objects.

This collection seems the more wonderful when we learn that it was not made at the instance of the powerful servants

of the nation, with their great resources, aided by many minds and hands and liberal appropriations by Congress, nor by the members of an association banded together with enthusiasm in the pursuit of their labors but by one man—Thomas Oldroyd, by name—who has devoted a lifetime to the work.

After climbing the steps of the house 516 Tenth Street, only distinguished from any modest three-story dwelling by the small sign in front: "Abraham Lincoln died in this house, twenty-two minutes past seven A. M., April 15, 1865," the visitor is admitted into a hallway leading past the double parlors to the rear room, to which Lincoln was carried and where his death occurred. The walls of this hall are almost completely covered with portraits of him at various periods of his life, in steel engraving, photograph and lithograph, and similar pictures of groups of which he is the central figure, the collection comprising 288 portraits besides the groups.

In the Front Parlor.

Turning to the left, entrance is gained to the room which was the front parlor of the house, where are some of the most interesting articles in the museum, including a black locust rail, split by Abraham Lincoln in 1830, taken from

Commenced as the Result of One Man's Love and Veneration for the Great Emancipator and Continued and Completed by the Unflagging Efforts of the Same Man.

a fence around his father's house, as certified by John Hanks, and attested by Governor Oglesby in 1860, five years before the President's death; also the flag which draped the theater box, and in which the assassin's spur caught as he jumped, tearing the flag and causing him to fall to the stage in such manner as to break his leg. The rent made by the spur is plainly seen, and the spur which made it is hung against the wall near the flag. Thus are seen together the two articles which seem to have been employed by an unseen agency to bring righteous retribution, because if the assassin Booth had not broken his leg, it is probable that he would have successfully accomplished his escape.

Two Oil Paintings of Lincoln.

Here are two oil paintings of Lincoln made in 1842 and 1846; several groups of which he was one, including the President and his Cabinet; Lincoln studying at night by the firelight in his father's cabin; a corrected draft of the famous Gettysburg speech; various receptions at the White House, including his last one; scenes in Springfield, Ill., including Oak Ridge Cemetery, and the Lincoln monument; the Globe Tavern, where Lincoln boarded when he was a brilliant and popular lawyer, and where his son Robert was born; the proclamation of freedom, dated January 1, 1863; scenes on the night of the assassination, and photographs of places connected with the history of the capture of Booth; a large photograph of the log cabin built by Lincoln and his father in 1831 on Goose Neck prairie, near Farmington, Ill., and one of an interior of this cabin, with the remains of an old spinning wheel used by Lincoln's mother. It was in this cabin that Lincoln's father died in 1851, and in which his mother enjoyed the realization of her hopes of greatness for her son, as she lived here until after his election as President of the United States, and died here during his first term.

Lincoln's Journey to Springfield.

Here are also pictures representing Lincoln's journey from Springfield to Washington prior to his inauguration in 1861; a photograph of Dennis Hanks, son of a brother of Lincoln's mother; Nancy Hanks, who was born May 15, 1793, and who taught the alphabet, read-

ing, writing, and spelling to his cousin Abraham.

Inclosed in glass cases are many valuable relics, including autograph letters and cards of Abraham Lincoln; the key of the prison in which the conspirators were incarcerated; a lock of Mrs. Lincoln's hair; original photographs of Mrs. Lincoln and others, including John Wilkes Booth; a lock of Booth's hair; a piece of his crutch, and pieces of the burnt barn in which he was shot, and of the porch on which he died; pieces of the ropes by which the conspirators were hanged, and many valuable books belonging to the Lincoln family, including the family Bible—over 100 years old—which Lincoln's mother read to him when a boy, and which yet bears on its cover the autograph of Abraham Lincoln, written when he was nine years of age.

Other interesting mementoes, too numerous to mention, are in this front room. Leaving it for the back parlor, there are found in that apartment an equally interesting medley of relics, including pictures of various kinds, illustrating scenes connected with the assassination, the flight of Booth and Herold, and the arrest and trial of the conspirators.

In this room is also an original theater bill of Ford's Theater on the night of the assassination. The play was "Our American Cousin," in which, as presented at Laura Keane's Theater, on Broadway, New York, Joseph Jefferson and E. H. Sothern were first brought most prominently before the public as masters of the dramatic art, the former as Lord Dundreary. Here is also an original photograph of Lincoln visiting the headquarters of Gen. George B. McClellan, after the battle of Antietam.

The Room Where Lincoln Died.

At the rear of the hall running the length of these two rooms is the apartment in which Abraham Lincoln died, and which is preserved as it was at the time of his death, except that the bed and other furniture and the pictures on the walls have been removed and the room converted into a gallery of pictures representing his death and scenes connected with his life, and a museum of relics in glass cases. Among the pictures is a large crayon of the death scene, which, although not historically correct as to the persons de-

picted present at the time of Lincoln's death, is valuable because it presents excellent likenesses of the distinguished persons who visited his bedside from the time he was brought here to the time of his death. A more faithful sketch of the deathbed scene is one that was made by an artist in this room on the morning of the President's death, from information furnished by persons present at the moment of dissolution, and from photographs of all those then in the room, giving the exact position of each person as nearly as it could be fixed from memory.

In the rear of the room which was the scene of the death of Lincoln is the former servants' room, now the library, which contains over one thousand volumes of biography of Lincoln and books relating to the civil war; five hundred newspapers, and three hundred and twenty magazines containing articles relating to Lincoln's life and death; three thousand five hundred newspaper clippings; hundreds of printed and manuscript sermons delivered at the time of the funeral, and many books and pamphlets that were Lincoln's personal property; also touching original letters addressed to, or written by, the beloved President, who was never too busy to show his love of the country's soldiers, then battling for the preservation of the nation, his pity for their sufferings, and his grief for their death.

Interesting Relics.

Back of the library is a recent addition to the building, which contains the cooking stove last used by the Lincoln family in the homestead at Springfield, a stand made from the sill of the house in which Lincoln lived in 1834, with lines engraved thereon that were written for it by the poet Whittier; a walnut cradle in which the Lincoln children were rocked, often by the hand of their father; black haircloth sofas and chairs bought by Lincoln and used by him to the time when he left Springfield for Washington, 1861; a what-not made from a walnut bedstead presented by Lincoln to a friend in Springfield; a wheel from the family carriage; wooden dining room chairs; a wooden settee on which he rested on his porch; his office desk, and his wooden office chair, in which he sat when he wrote his first inaugural address. Here are also statuettes, engravings, and photographs, in-

cluding Brady's famous photograph of Lincoln, which is considered the best likeness of him at the time immediately preceding his death.

The Lincoln statue in front of the City Hall, was erected not many years after Lincoln's death. Certainly no subject can more fittingly represent the struggle and triumph of that terrible period which is now so forcibly recalled than the master mind and brave spirit that, while not participating by reason of his office with the soldiers on the battlefields, felt for and watched over all. This Lincoln statue was the work of Flannery Brothers, sculptors, of this city, and was paid for by funds raised from voluntary subscriptions by friends and admirers of the martyr President. The business part of the work connected with the erection of this monument was conducted by the Lincoln National Monument Association, organized April 25, 1865. The president of this association was Richard Wallace; vice president, Joseph F. Brown; secretary, Crosby S. Noyes; treasurer, George W. Riggs. There were fifty directors, of whom the following belonged in Washington: Joseph F. Brown, Asbury Lloyd, John B. Turton, Dr. W. G. H. Newman, George H. Plant, Z. Richards, N. D. Larner, E. C. Carrington, John P. Pepper, S. J. Bowen, George F. Gulick, B. B. French,

George R. Ruff, C. V. Morris, John G. Dudley, John H. Semmes, James Kelly, William P. Ferguson, from Georgetown; Henry Addison, William H. Tenney, from Washington county; S. P. Brown, and Dr. C. H. Nichols.

Unveiled by President Johnson.

The monument was dedicated April 16, 1868, in the presence of an immense concourse of people, the arrangements being in charge of Mayor Wallace. An address was made by Hon. B. B. French, and E. B. Olmstead read a poem written for the occasion. The monument was then unveiled by President Andrew Johnson.

The bronze statue of Lincoln in Lincoln Park, called "Emancipation," was designed by Ball, the sculptor, and cast in Munich, Germany. It was unveiled April 14, 1876, an anniversary of his assassination. This monument is the result of the labors of the emancipated citizens of the United States. The first contribution was received from Charlotte Scott, an aged negro, who gave her first \$5 earned in freedom. Frederick Douglass was the orator at the unveiling exercises. At every anniversary of Emancipation Day the colored inhabitants of the city hold appropriate ceremonies at Lincoln Park, and recall the memory of him to whom they owe so much.



Lincoln Statue Before City Hall.



Lincoln Monument in Lincoln Park.